

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct errors of a typographical and grammatical nature. Due to the number of corrections thereto, applicants submit herewith a Substitute Specification, along with a marked-up copy of the original specification for the Examiner's convenience. The substitute specification includes the changes as shown in the marked-up copy and includes no new matter. Therefore, entry of the Substitute Specification is respectfully requested.

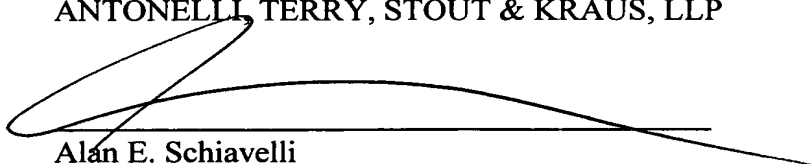
Also submitted herewith is a proposed amendment to the drawings, wherein Figs. 1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 13 and 14 have been amended at this time. Upon receipt of the approval of the amendment to the drawings and receipt of a Notice of Allowance, the proposed drawing corrections will be effected in accordance with present practice.

Entry of the preliminary amendments and examination of the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (503.39354X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Alan E. Schiavelli
Registration No. 32,087

DRA/AES/jla
(703) 312-6600

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IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title to read as follows.

PROCESSING SYSTEM ~~OF~~ FOR PROVIDING SERVICES AND PROCESSING METHOD
~~OF PROVIDING SERVICES THEREFOR.~~



TITLE OF THE INVENTION
Processing System [of] ^{for Providing} Services and Processing
Method [of Providing Services] Therefor

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5 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[1. FIELD OF THE INVENTION]

The present invention relates to a service providing system, through which services are provided to service users, and ^{to} a processing method of providing
10 services to service users.

[2. CONVENTIONAL ART]

When a user receives, for example, a specific car lease and car insurance [service], the user has to pay a
15 consideration to a service provider every time [when] the user receives the service. When a user desires to receive a plurality of services, the user has to apply
^{for such} [the] services [offering] to respective service providers [concerned], and has to pay ^{required} the considerations to the
20 respective service providers. ^{for the services that are received} Further, when a user wants to modify the contents of ^a service, ^{contract or agreement} the modification is sometime difficult.
^{The typical} [A] user has been ^{looking forward to a way of obtaining desired} desiring that desiring services
[can be received further] ^{more} easily and freely.

25

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide

a service providing system and a processing method of providing services which ^{makes it possible} [permits] to provide services ^{more} [further] easily to service users.

According to one aspect of the present invention,
 5 a point value is set as a consideration for a service to be offered. ^{Then,} a point value to be ^{communicated} received as a consideration when a service is given is [informed] to a service user who desires to receive the service, and when the service has been ^{provided} [offered], the service
 10 provider receives the point value from the service user as [the] consideration ^{for} [of] the service [offering].

According to another aspect of the present invention, in a processing system in which service point values depending on ^{insurance} policy ^{coverage} [holding conditions] ^{communicated} are [informed] to a service user who desires to ^{take out} [receive] ^{for the insurance} [an] insurance [service], point values to be paid are set with respect to ^{the} insurance ^{coverage provided by the policy} [service contents] and ^{the} period and times ^{during which the policy is in effect. If the service user accepts the offer,} [of receiving the service and] the point value credited to the service user who receives the
 20 insurance ^{coverage} [service] is reduced depending on the [service] ^{policy accepted by} [content] offered to the service user who desires to receive the insurance ^{coverage} [service offering] and on the [service offering period and times] ^{In this regard,} point values with respect to a plurality of ^{items of} insurance ^{coverage} [service contents] and ^a service period and times are transmitted ^{in response to} [a] request ^{by} [with respect to the transmission of] the service user who receives the insurance [service]

offering [is received] and an arithmetic processing of the point value of the service user who receives the insurance^{coverage} [service offering] is performed.

According to still another aspect of the present
 5 invention, a processing [of] ^{for} concluding agreements [of] ^{for} service [offerings] from a plurality of service providers which offer services is performed, applications from users who desire ^{services} [service offerings] are received, necessary personal data of the possible
 10 user ^{or} applicant are recorded and a registration processing of the service user is performed ^{then} [a] a processing [of] ^{for} receiving a lump-sum or periodic use fee from the user applicant is performed, ^{and} [a processing of] [issuing] a point card ^{is issued to} ^{or} [for] the user ^{or} applicant in which
 15 the personal data of the user ^{or} applicant and a point value corresponding to the received use fee are recorded [is performed] ^{then}. In response to a car ^{lease} [use] [service] application from a service user, a processing [of] ^{for} collectively presenting ^{various} types of cars ^{to the user} is performed, and,
 20 at the same time or after the car type presentation, [a] [processing of presenting considerations in] point values with regard to ^a use period for every car type is performed, a processing ^{communicated to the applicant} of accepting ^{when} ^{presented by the applicant} a car ^{lease} [use] application is [performed] in which a car type is
 25 specified which the service user desires to ^{lease} [use] among the presented car types and a ^{lease} [use] period of the car is selected, [a processing of requesting to] the service

is requested⁴ the requested lease agreement
provider, to provide [a service], in which the type of car
is specified and the use period thereof is selected by

the service user. [is performed, a processing of]
[receiving a report from] The service provider, that the
5 car [use service]^{lease} has been completed [is performed], (a)

[processing of deducting] the point value corresponding
to the offered [service]^{lease has been deducted}, from the point value owned by
the service user. [is performed], After [performing a]
[processing of] accepting a car [use application]^{lease}, in which

10 a car type is specified which the service user desires
to [use]^{lease}, among the presented car types and a [use]^{lease} period
of the car is selected, [a processing of presenting]
types, contents and [use]^{various} period of car insurance

[service] with regard to the car selected by the service
15 user is [performed], At the same time [when] or after

presenting the types, contents and [use]^{coverage of} period of the
car insurance [service], [a processing of presenting] the
[considerations in] point values [of] the types, contents

and [use] period of the car insurance [service] is
communicated to the service user. The service user then receives an
20 [performed, further a processing of receiving a use]

application [of] car insurance [service] which is
voluntarily selected by the service user regardless [to]
the type and [use]^{lease} period of the car which the service
user [receives] as the service offer is performed, a

25 [processing of requesting]^{A request is sent}, to the service provider to
provide the car insurance [service] which is selected by
the service user [is performed, a processing of]

and
 [receiving] a report from the service provider, that the
 car insurance has been ^{provided} [offered] is performed, and a
 [processing of deducting] a point value corresponding to
 the [offered] car insurance ^{has been deducted} [service], from the point value
 5 owned by the service user [is performed].

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a ^{block} diagram [for explaining] ^{showing} an overview, ^{of the}
 structure for performing a service providing method
 10 and ^{illustrating the} (a) relationships of information transmission and
 reception according to the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a service processing ^{flow timing} [system] diagram
 representing an embodiment according to the present
 invention;

15 Fig. 3 is a processing flowchart of membership
 registration performed at the [side of a] service
 provider management Co. in response to a membership
 application in ^{the} Fig. 2 embodiment;

Fig. 4 is a processing flowchart ^{of operations} performed at the
 20 [side of the] service provider management Co. after a
 temporary registration is completed in ^{the} Fig. 2
 embodiment;

Fig. 5 is a processing flowchart ^{of operations} performed when a
 service user receives a service offer in ^{the} Fig. 2
 25 embodiment;

Fig. 6 is a processing flowchart ^{of operations} performed at the
 service provider management Co. in response to an

application of a service offer by a service user in, ^{the}
Fig. 2 embodiment;

Fig. 7 is a diagram for ^{illustrating} [explaining] a variation of
car insurance service and other services with regard
5 to ^a time interval;

Fig. 8 is a diagram for ^{illustrating} [explaining] a variation of
car use service, car insurance service and other
services with regard to ^a time interval;

Fig. 9 is a diagram for ^{illustrating} [explaining] a relationship
10 between a plurality of offered services and ^{points for services} [point]
purchased;

Fig. 10 is a processing flowchart, ^{of operations} performed with
regard to a car use service for a service user in ^{the} Fig.
2 embodiment;

15 Fig. 11 is a diagram showing a menu for a variety
of services in ^{the} Fig. 2 embodiment;

Fig. 12 is a diagram showing a menu for a car use
(lease) service in ^{the} Fig. 2 embodiment;

Fig. 13 is a diagram showing a data file of
20 service users at the ^{the} [side of the] service provider
management Co. in Fig. 2 embodiment;

Fig. 14 is a processing flowchart, ^{of operations} performed with
regard to membership continuation of a point agreement
in ^{the} Fig. 2 embodiment; and

25 Fig. 15 is a diagram showing a menu used when
alterating a point agreement in ^{the} Fig. 2 embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Fig. 1 shows an overview ^{of a system} [constitution] for performing a service [providing method] and a relationship of information transmission and reception according to the present invention, and Fig. 2 shows an embodiment of a service processing system and a processing method of providing services.

A service provider management company 60 [providers] ^{provide} services to service users 30. In order to improve the quality and to enrich the contents of the services, the service provider management company 60 [concluded] ^{concludes} in advance agreements with support entities 10 with regard to ^{the services which they offer} [their service offerings].

The supporting entities 10 transmit information [for providing] ^{concerning} a variety of services ^{which they offer} to the service provider management company 60. As a method of ^{carrying out} such transmission, public lines can be used. Further, a satellite can also be used; and, if ^a [the] satellite is used for the transmission, the secrecy ^{of each transmission} [thereof] ^{data} is maintained and the quality of the concerned image ^{the} is improved. One of ^a exemplary methods through which information with regard to ^a variety of services is easily transmitted from the supporting entities 10 to the service provider management company 60 is one in which information with regard to a variety of offerable services is sent from the supporting entities 10 via a line 2 to a communication ^{relaying medium} [line] 5,

which makes use of a satellite having a long elliptical orbit, and the information with regard to a variety of services received at the communication ^{relaying medium} (line) 5 is sent to the service provider management company 60 via a line 3.

As has been explained above, the supporting entities 10 are ^{designed} prepared to provide a variety of services according to the agreements with the service provider management company 60. The entities ^{referred to} (called) 10 as [the] supporting entities 10 are actually individual service providing companies, for example, including an insurance company 11, a ^{chain of} [chained] convenience ^{stores} (store) 12, a gas station 13, a car repair shop 14, a car leasing company 15, a travel agency 16, a map distribution trader 17, a ticket dealer 18, an event ^{planner} [planer] 19, and a road traffic information provider 20. The insurance company 11 provides, for example, a car indemnity insurance service []; the [chained] convenience store 12 ^{provides} [provide], for example, a ^{involving the sale} [selling] service [] of articles []; 20 the gas station 13 provides, for example, a refuelling service []; the car repair shop 14 performs a car repair service []; the car leasing company 15 performs a car leasing service []; the travel agency 16 provides a service of providing plans [of] ^{for} travelling and 25 sightseeing []; the map distribution trader 17 performs a map distribution service [of] ^{involving maps of} a variety of areas through ^{use of} a car navigation ^{system} [] the ticket dealer 18 provides

information with regard to concerts and plays and
 (selling) ^{the} service of ^{selling} (these) tickets ^{to such events;} the event ^{planner} [planner] 19
 provides ^{the} service of planning, drafting and executing a
 variety of events; and the road traffic information
 5 provider 20 provides information services with regard
 to ^{the locations of} traffic [jamming points] ^{jams} and ^{the} time in ^a nation wide ^{area} and ⁱⁿ
 specific regions.

The service provider management company 60, which
 [receives] ^{receives} a variety of services from the supporting
 10 entities 10, sends [a] desired service information based
 on [the] ^a request from the service user 30 to the
 communication relaying medium (for example, a
 satellite having a long elliptical orbit) 5 via the
 line 3, and the communication relaying medium [(for)
 15 (example, a satellite having a long elliptical orbit)] 5,
 which [has received] ^{receives} a variety of service information
 based on the request [of] ^{from} the service user 30, sends the
 same via the line 6, for example, to a PC 31, a car
 mounted unit 32 or a portable phone terminal 33, ^{carried} [owned]
 20 by the service user 30. The car mounted unit 32
 receives radio waves from a plurality of GPS
 satellites, [and] determines the car position, and
 transmits the determined position information to the
 service provider management company 60 [through]
 25 [communication therewith] via the line 6, the
 communication relaying medium [(for example, a]
 [satellite having a long elliptical orbit)] 5 and the

line 3. Hereinbelow, in order to ^{more} easily understand the gist of the present invention, primarily a service providing method ^{involving a} [of] car use (lease) service will be explained.

5 ^{Referring to} [In] Fig. 2, the service provider management company 60 concludes business agreements ¹⁰⁰ with regard to service offerings with the supporting entities 10 which support a variety of services, such as the insurance company 11, the [chained] convenience store, ^{chain} 12, the gas station 13, the car repair shop 14, the car leasing company 15, the travel agency 16, the map distribution trader 17, the ticket dealer 18, the event ^{planner} [planer], 19, and the road traffic information provider 20. Under these business agreements 100, a

15 variety of services which the supporting entities 10 can provide are offered in response to a request. Further, the service provider management company 60 sets the use fees [of] ^{for} a variety of services, which the supporting entities 10 can provide, in ^{the} [a] form of points

20 and receives [a] membership applications (102), while specifying points for grades ^{of membership} (magnitude of ^{points} [point]) to service users 30 who desire [offerings of] a variety of services which the supporting entities 10 can provide.

When ^a [the] membership application (102) is ^{for} a high grade, ^{membership}

25 it is examined ^{to determine} whether the membership applicant is appropriate as a high grade ^{member} [membership] (104). This point purchase application is a ^{basis for} [base of] receiving a

variety of services, for example, a car use (lease) service.

Further, when the service provider management company 60 communicates with the supporting entities 5 10 and the service users 30, in ^{order} ~~(other)~~ that the company 60, ^{will be able to communicate} ~~[communicates]~~, for example, with the car mounted unit 40 by making use of ~~(such as)~~ public lines and satellites, ^{for example,} of a communication business company 50, the service provider management company 60, ^{enters into} ~~[concludes]~~ a 10 business agreement ¹³⁰ with the communication business company.

The service provider management company 60 issues an ID card to the membership applicant based on the membership application (102), while performing an 15 examination with regard to a high grade membership application. On this ID card, ^{there} ~~,~~ are recorded a code number for identifying the ~~[membership]~~ applicant, ^{as} set by the service provider management company 60 and ~~[the]~~ personal information of the service user 30 who 20 applied ^{for} the membership. When the service user 30 receives the ~~[issuance of the]~~ ID card, the service user 30 is credited ^{with} ~~(of)~~ the ~~[applied]~~ points, ^{according to the membership agreement} and the membership applicant is accepted as a member (a service user 30).

25 The points represent ~~the~~ total points which can be used ^{during the} ~~(in a)~~ period of the agreement, ^{wherein} ~~,~~ ^{amounts of} ~~respective~~ points are set for all of the available services, and the

service user 30 can, ^{apply for and} receive desired services within ^{limits of the} the total points owned.

At first, an example ^{in which} [when] the service user 30 requests a car use (lease) service ^{his or her} for own use will be explained. The service user 30 performs a car selection / application, while specifying a desired car manufacturer A1, car model / type B1 / C1, displacement volume (for example, 3000cc), ^a yes or no ^{selection} of ^a car navigation unit, ^a yes or no ^{selection} of ^a sun roof, ^a body color (for example, white) and ^{the lease period} [use interval] (for example, two years after first registration).

Based on the car selection / application (108) from the service user 30, the service provider management company 60, ^{sends an} [performs] application ^{for the} [of] selected car to the car lease company 15 representing one of the supporting entities 10 (110) []; the car lease company 15 representing the supporting entity 10 ^{as} provides a car, requested by the service user 30 to the service provider management company 60 (111); and the service provider management company 60 completes the car ^{lease} [offering] service to the service user 30 (112). Alternatively, when a car lease application is received from the service provider management company 60 (110), the car lease company 15 representing the supporting entity 10 ^{may} directly ^{extend} [performs] the car ^{on behalf of} [offering] service to the service user 30 [for] the service provider management company 60 (120).

With regard to ^{the requested lease} ~~this~~ car use service, it is necessary to determine ^{whether and what type of} (a) car insurance (such as bodily injury liability insurance and property damage liability insurance) ^{will be taken by the service user 30; and can be applied for}, therefore, [a] car insurance, at 5 the same time [can be applied], while specifying the grade thereof, for example, with regard to [the] bodily injury liability insurance of no upper limit[,] and [the] property damage liability insurance of ¥5,000,000. The points to be used ^{vary} [varies] ^{the} depending on, grades of 10 the car and the car insurance applied ^{for}.

A relationship between the car insurance with respect to the car used and other services (ITS service) ^{is} [shows as one as] illustrated in Fig. 7. The abscissa in Fig. 7 represents an amount of points and 15 the ordinate [therein] represents ^a time interval (in Fig. 7 the interval of one [piece of] bar represents two months ~ 1 year). In the present embodiment, the valid insurance period (for example, one month and six months) can be optionally set by the service user 30, 20 the contents of the car insurance can be modified in a short period and, further, can be freely set regardless [to such as] ^{of} the car model / grade. The examples shown in Fig. 7 are those of purchased car owners.

As seen from Fig. 7, since the amount of points 25 paid ^{for} [as] the insurance in ^{each} [the] respective period, [is varied] ^{varies}, it is understood that the ^{coverage provided by} [contents of] the insurance ^{policy can be} [are] modified for [the] respective

predetermined periods (for example, one year). For example, ^{the section} A in bar graph 500 represents an insurance fee (points) for (a) car insurance and ^{section} B in the bar graph 500 represents ^{points} [a point] for other services (ITS service). Further, ^{the} [likely] in bar graph 510, ^{the section} A represents an insurance fee (points) for (a) car insurance and ^{points} B represents [a point] for other services (ITS service). ^{Similarly} [likely] in the bar graphs 520, 530, 540 and 550, ^{the sections A} (As) represent insurance fees for car insurance and ^{the sections B} (Bs) represent points for other services (ITS service). When comparing these bar graphs 500 - 550, the insurance fees (points) ^{for} [of] car insurance and the points for other services (ITS service) are respectively varied for respective predetermined periods, which shows that the contents of ^{the} insurance ^{coverages} are modified ⁱⁿ (for) every predetermined period, for example, ^{according to the} kinds of car insurance; and ^{the} contents of car insurance are varied depending on car use circumstances. ^{while,} (and) at the same time, the contents of other services (ITS service) received for the respective corresponding periods are also varied. Namely, the service user 30 can freely set the ^{coverage} [Contents] and service period of the car insurance depending on the car use ^{requirements} [circumstance]. With such ^a car insurance [use] method, points saved from the car insurance can be freely used for other services (ITS service).

Fig. 8 shows ^{the} [a point] variation ^{in points} when a [car is used] in such a manner that a service user 30 uses a specific car for a specific period as if the service user 30 ^{owned} [owns] the car without purchasing the car. With reference to Fig. 8, (a) ^{the} relationship between a car use service (for example, a time limited lease from the first ^{day of} registration to 18 months ^{later}), car insurance for the car [using] and other services (ITS service) will be explained.

The abscissa in Fig. 8 represents ^{the} amount of points and the ordinate therein ^{represents} [presents] time (for example, the interval of one bar represents 1 or 2 years). In Fig. 8, ^{the section} A in bar graph 600 represents the use fee (lease fee) of the car in points, ^{the section} B therein represents ^{an} [a] insurance fee (in points) for [a] car insurance and ^{section} C therein represents other services (ITS service) in points. ^{Similarly} ^{the sections A} [Likely], [As], in bar graphs 610, 620, 630, 640 and 650 represent use fees (lease fees) for cars in points, ^{the sections B} [Bs] represent insurance fees (in points) for car insurance, ^{the sections C} and [Cs] represent points for other services (ITS service). When comparing these bar graphs 600 ~ 650, points ^{representing the} [of] car use fee (lease fee) vary for every year, which implies that the service user 30 ^{exchanges} [changes] the car ^{for} [using to] a new car for every predetermined period and the grade of the new car varies every time. Further, the reason why the insurance fees in ^{points} [point] for car insurance vary [for]

every year is that the [contents of] car insurance, ^{coverage will} vary depending on, ^{the} cars then, ^{being used} using.

Further, the variation of the insurance fees in points for the car insurance# is slightly attributed
 5 (by) ^{to} variation ^{in the} (of) ^{coverage} insurance [contents], due to ^{the} a grade difference of ^{the} cars, ^{being} leased. [For example, [because of] ^{for} a high grade car, [a] ^{the} property damage liability insurance is increased, ^{while, on the other hand, for} [or contrary thereto because of] a low grade car, such as a light car ^{on} [of] ^{the} which, damage is large
 10 at the time of, ^a collision, [a] ^{the} property damage liability insurance is increased, ^{in addition, the} by ^{the} variation of ^{coverage may be} insurance [contents] due to ^{the type of} use [purpose] of the cars, such as private use ^{or} [and] business use, and ^{whether} [due to] use [condition] thereof ^{will involve frequent} [such as] long distance travel ^{use and} [and] short distance travel ^{in the case} [use]. [For example, ^{exclusive} [because of] ^{coverage} (a) long distance travel [exclusive use], an insurance ^{service} [service] of high ^{risk} [guarantee] is to be ^{provided.} insured), and by ^{the} variation of insurance [contents] due to travel conditions, such as travel time ^{periods} [bands] (for example, ^{primarily} in day time [and] ^{or at} at
 20 [midnight]).

Therefore, when using the car ^{lease} [use] ^{of use.} service according to the present embodiment, the service user
 30 can freely ^{exchange} [change] the car ^{after} [using in] a short period, [Actually, when a new car is used for one month, the
 25 car becomes a used car, therefore, if a new car is leased, the ^{ability to exchange} [change of] the car is, for example, limited ^{to} (for) ^{the service user 30 also} two years, ^{coverage} [can freely vary the insurance [contents]

depending on ^{the} use circumstances of ^{use of} the car (for example, because of absence during July ~ September, no car insurance is ^{carried} validated), ^{and the service user 30} (as well as) can receive ^{coverage} (a) double insurance, service for a specific period (for example, during family travel), while receiving normally ^{coverage} a car insurance, service of a low ^{at other times} level. According to the present embodiment, it is unnecessary to purchase ^{and own} a car for owning the car as in ^{the} conventional manner, ^{and} the service user 30 can freely ^{exchange} change the car now ^{being used for} using to another car. Further, the car insurance, ^{coverage} Contents (degree of services) can be specified depending on the car use circumstances, as ^{and} well as the insurance ^{coverage can be} service is temporarily terminated freely for a specific period, when the car is not ^{being} used. Therefore, in such ^{an} instance, ^{the balance} (a remainder) of the points credited by a predetermined amount of payment increases, and the saved ^{saved due to reduction of} points from the car insurance, ^{coverage} can be freely used for other services (ITS service).

20 When the car lease company 15, representing one of the supporting entities 10, receives an application of ^{for lease} a selected car from the service provider management company 60 (110), the car lease company 15 provides the selected car to the service provider management
25 company 60, and the service provider management company 60 further provides the selected car to the service user 30; or, alternatively, the car lease

company 15 directly provides ^{the transaction through} the selected car to the service user 30 without routing ^{the} the service provider management company 60.

On one hand, when the service user 30 inserts the
 5 issued ID card into the car mounted unit 40 on the car ^{that is},
 provided, the personal information recorded in the ID
 card is ^{transferred} [recorded] into the car mounted unit 40 and the
 car [provided becomes] ^{operates} as if it were owned by the
 service user 30 (although legally the present
 10 condition is leasing). Thereby, the service user 30
 can receive other services than the car providing
 service through communication with the service
 provider management company 60 via the car mounted
 unit 40.

15 When the service user 30 desires a service [offer]
 other than the car providing service, the service user
 30 is required to insert the ID card into the car
 mounted unit 40 and apply ^{for} services other than the car
 providing service to the service provider management
 20 company 60 via the car mounted unit 40 (114).
 Although the services other than the car providing
 service include the service with regard to the car
 insurance (for example, bodily injury liability
 insurance and property damage liability insurance) as
 25 referred to above, [the] services other than the car
 providing service further include services of [the]
 other supporting entities 10 which conclude agreements

with the service provider management company 60, such as article purchase payment (service through a credit card) in the [chained] convenience store 12, ^{payment for} refuelling [payment] at the gas station 13 (service through a credit card), a car repair service at the time of ^a car accident or ^{break-down} [failure], at the car repair shop 14, a travel and sightseeing plan providing service at the travel agency 16, a car navigation [function] service at the map distribution trader 17, a ticket information service with regard to concerts and plays and ^a ticket selling service at the ticket dealer 18, an event providing service at the event planing agent and information providing service, such as ^{locations of traffic jams} [jamming points], ^{the} and ^{on a} time ^{basis} [of] nation wide ⁱⁿ and ⁱⁿ specific local areas, and a variety of information with regard to cars at the road traffic information provider 20.

These services, other than the car providing service, are ^{obtained by way of} [indicated as] the service application (114) from the service user 30 in Fig. 2. When the service application (114) from the service user 30 is transmitted via the car mounted unit 40 to the service provider management company 60, the service provider management company 60 transmits ^a [the] request ^{for} [of] the service [offer] desired by the service user 30 to one of the supporting entities 10 by ^{way of} [making use of] such as the public lines and the satellites of the communication business company 50 (116). ^{for example}

These requests ^{for} [of] service [offer] from the service provider management company 60 to the supporting entities 10 are indicated as a car related information offer in Fig. 2 (116). When the service [offer] request 5 (116) from the service provider management company 60 is transmitted to the supporting entities 10 by [making] ^{way} A [use] of the public lines and the satellites of the communication business company 50, the service is offered from one of the supporting entities 10 to the 10 service provider management company 60 (116). Based on this service offer, the service provider management company 60 ^{transmits} [performs] the desired service offering (118) ^{to} [toward] the car mounted unit 40 ^{of} [for] the service user 30 by making use of the public lines and the satellites 15 of the communication business company 50. The service transmitted to the car mounted unit 40 is transferred to the service user 30 through the unit 40.

Further, when a service offer is requested from the service provider management company 60 to one of 20 the supporting entities 10 by ^{way of} [making use of such as] the public lines and the satellites of the communication business company 50, ^{for example,} the service offer from the supporting entity 10 can be directly ^{communicated} [performed] to the service user 30 without routing the ^{information} ~~the~~ 25 service provider management company 60 (120). Further, ^{indicating the position} [the position] information of the car used by the service user 30 is transmitted from the car

mounted unit 40 to the communication business company 50 (122), and the car position information transmitted to the communication business company 50 is transmitted to the service provider management company 5 60 by ^{way of} making use of such as the public lines and the satellites of the communication business company 50, ^{so as} to identify the position of the car. Alternatively, the position of the car can be determined by receiving radio waves from a plurality of GPS satellites through 10 polling of the service provider management company 60 and communication with the car mounted unit 40 (126).

Further, before terminating the ^{lease} use period of the car now ^{being used} using, the service user 30 can ^{exchange} change the car ^{for} to a different car having a different grade, or, ^{he or she} can use, 15 in addition to the car now ^{being used} using another car having a different grade, while setting a specific short ^{lease} period.

When the service user 30 receives these variety of services, the service user 30 pays the cost of the variety of services ^{with his or her} by the ^{these points are deducted} points owned by itself, and ^{from} 20 the points owned by the service user 30 ^{are deducted} (132). The point deduction is performed, for example, monthly, and further, the purchase of points, ^{of which} the amount ^{of which} is different depending on the grade of the membership, is performed by drawing out periodically a 25 predetermined amount ^{of money} corresponding to a predetermined amount of points from the bank account of the service user 30.

Although the above car ^{lease} (use), service has been explained under the precondition that a new car is used, the same is true with regard to a used car^[r]; however, in such ^{an} instance, the first registration year and month is added to the car selecting condition.

Now, the processing flow ^{for effecting} [of] membership registration at the [side of the] service provider management company 60 in response to ^{receipt of} a membership application will be explained with reference to Fig. 3.

In Fig. 3, a person who desires to receive a variety of services offered by the supporting entities 10 is required to be registered as a member by the service provider management company 60. A person (service user 30) who desires to be registered as a member by the service provider management company 60 has to call up the service provider management company 60 by ^{one of} (making) use of the terminal units, such as the PC 31, the car mounted unit 32 and the portable phone terminal 33, at step 200. When the person who desires to be registered as a ^{member} [membership] calls up (accesses) the service provider management company 60, the service provider management company 60 receives the call at step 250 and sends back an answer to the service user 30. When the answer comes from the service provider management company 60, a membership registration menu from the service provider management

company 60 is displayed at the terminal unit of the service user 30 at step 202, and requires to the service user 30^{is required} to input whether or not the membership registration application is^a "new registration". When
 5 the service user 30^{indicates that} inputs the present membership registration application is not the^a new registration at the step 202, the process moves to step 204 to perform other processes.

On the other hand, when the service user 30
 10 inputs^{indicates that} the present membership registration application is a new registration at step 202, the input condition^{this inputted response} is transferred to the service provider management company 60, and then data displaying^{indicating the} privileges^{that are available to a} when registered as a member and contents^{the amount} to be^{paid by} owed^{of membership} as a
 15 member (periodic purchase of points) for every grade are transmitted to the terminal unit of the service user 30 at step 252. Then, at step 206, an explanation with regard to^{the terms of} the registration (such as^{obligations} burden) of a member depending on^{membership} grades and privileges of the
 20 membership) is displayed at the terminal unit of the person (service user 30) who desires to be registered as a member^{ship} by the service provider management company 60 (step 207). After the step 207, at the terminal unit of the person (service user 30) who
 25 desires to be registered as a member^{a menu including the options}, "not register as a member", "low grade membership" and "high grade membership" are displayed, and the person (service user

30) who desires to be registered as a member[ship] is required to select one of the three items displayed. Namely, the person is required to specify^{whether he or she is} to be registered as a normal grade point member[ship] or a
 5 high grade point member[ship].

Based on the image display at step 207, if^a person selects "not register as a member" at step 208, the process ends. Further, based on the image display at step 207, when "low grade membership" is selected at
 10 step 209, an explanation with regard to membership privileges, membership^{obligations} [burden] and membership registration requirements (such as address, name, ID presentation and age^a limitation)^{for} [as] "low grade membership" is^{displayed} [performed]^a at step 210. Further, based
 15 on the image display at step 207, when "high grade membership" is selected at step 211, an explanation with regard to membership privileges, membership^{obligations} [burden]^a and membership registration requirements^a (such as address, name, ID presentation and age limitation)
 20 ^{for} [as] "high grade membership"^{is displayed,} and an examination^{as to} whether to register^{the applicant} as^a "high grade member[ship]" is performed at step 212.

At step 206, when either "low grade membership" or "high grade membership" is selected and the
 25 explanation with regard to the^{details of a} membership [contents is]^{has been} communicated^{to the applicant} [informed]^a, the provider management company 60 transmits image display data for inputting of fill-in items

necessary for membership registration (such as user
 name, address, telephone number, sex, age, occupation,
 ID, bank account, desired car model) to the terminal
 unit of the person (service user 30) who desires to be
 5 registered as a member⁽¹⁾ and, at step 213 ^[requires to],
 the person (service user 30) who desires to be
 registered as a member^{is required} to input the fill-in items
 necessary for the membership registration. When the
 person (service user 30) who desires to be registered
 10 as a member inputs the fill-in items necessary for the
 membership registration on the screen at the terminal
 unit, the inputted data on the screen ^{is} ^(are) transmitted
 to the service provider management company 60. After
 receiving the inputted data on the screen, the service
 15 provider management company 60 confirms the fill-in
 items necessary for membership registration inputted
^(on the input screen at the terminal unit) by the person
 (service user 30) who desires to be registered as a
 member, ^{registers} ^(registers) temporarily the person (service user
 20 30) who desires to be registered as a member as a
 candidate member (temporary membership registration)
 and transmits a notification ^(data) of temporary
 membership^{and a temporary membership} number to the terminal unit of the person
 (service user 30) who desires to be registered as a
 25 member. The temporary registration ^{operates} ^(implies) to
 register the person as a temporary member and not as a
 regular member, and the person will be registered as a

regular member after ^{it has been} [being] determined ^{that the applicant satisfies} [to satisfy] predetermined requirements. The valid period of the temporary membership is limited (for example, ^{to} three months)[,]; therefore, if the predetermined requirements necessary for registering ^{an applicant} as a regular member[ship] are not satisfied within [the] ^{of the applicant} predetermined period, registration as a regular member[ship] is refused, and the temporary membership is invalidated after the predetermined period has passed. The reason ^{for offering} [of] ^{of} [preparing] the temporary membership [system] is for satisfying a [desire of a] person who desires to be registered as a member[ship] to receive service as a member[ship] immediately, even if the ^{benefits} [contents] thereof [is] ^{are} limited. The temporary member can basically receive services as a regular member[ship], however, it is not necessarily true that the temporary member can receive all of the services which a regular member[ship] can enjoy[]; and, the services which can be received are limited and the services which can be enjoyed by a temporary member[ship] are determined in advance by the service provider management company 60.

When the transmission of notification [data] of the temporary membership [number] is received, it is displayed at the terminal unit [possessed by] ^{of} the person (service user 30) who desires to be registered as a member[ship] ^{indicating} that the person is temporarily registered as a [membership] candidate ^{for membership,} while indicating a given

temporary membership number on the screen [and] the [membership] temporary registration has been completed. *.Thus,*

At the time of this membership registration processing, ^{even} when a person (service user 30) who desires to be registered ^{attempts} [is required] to input all of the fill-in items necessary for [the] membership registration at that moment, it sometimes happens that it is difficult to input all of the fill-in items at the moment. Therefore, actually, the service provider management company 60 determines in advance minimum necessary data, ^{which will satisfy} [satisfies] an initial condition if such data are input, ^{and} allows the temporary registration, ^{of the applicant} as a membership candidate ^{when the minimum necessary data is received.} [Thereafter, ^{the service provider management company 60} requires the person (the service user 30) who desires the membership registration to supplement remaining unfilled-in data, and, ^{all remaining} if [no] data ^{is not} [are] supplemented within a predetermined period (for example, a valid period of the temporary membership and a period until ^{the applicant is} to be registered as a regular member[ship]), (such) processing is performed ^{whereby} [as] the temporary membership registration is invalidated and the temporary membership registration is canceled without registering ^{the applicant} as a regular member[ship] at the time when the valid period of the temporary membership registration has passed.

Fig. 4 shows ^{the} [such] processing flow at [the side of] the service provider management company 60 ^{processing} for the membership registration request from a person (the

service user 30) who desires a membership registration after the temporary registration has been completed.

In Fig. 4, through a terminal unit possessed by a person (the service user 30) who desires the membership registration, the fill-in items necessary for the membership registration are input ^{and the inputted} [via a] [screen, the screen input] data (are) ^{is} transmitted to the service provider management company 60[.]. After receiving the [screen] input data, the service provider management company 60 registers the person as a temporary member[ship]; and, after completing assignment of ^{the} [a] temporary membership number, at step 280, data of the registered temporary member (are) ^{is} read, and, at step 282, it is judged whether the newly registered temporary member ^{has been given} [is] a "low grade membership" or a "high grade membership".

At step 282, if it is judged that the newly registered temporary member ^{does have} [is] not a "high grade membership", in other words, ^{the temporary member has} a "low grade membership", and at step 284, it is confirmed that the registered temporary member satisfies predetermined conditions (as) ^{for} a "low grade membership", registration (as) ^{of the temporary member for} a "low grade membership" (regular membership) is performed and notification of ^{the} membership number and issuance of ^{to the temporary member} membership card ^{also, the} are performed, and such personal data as shown in Fig. 13 (are) ^{is} recorded and stored in a memory of the service provider management company 60.

Generally, a registered temporary member is registered as a "low grade membership" without specific examination, if the necessary fill-in items are satisfied. For the issuance of the membership card, 5 for example, an ID card for a "low grade membership" is prepared and the same is mailed to the member. However, the method of issuing a membership card is not limited specifically. ^{For example,} an IC card with no record ^{maybe} (is) sent at the ^{time of} temporary membership registration; and, at the ^{time of} regular membership registration, through the terminal unit possessed by the person (the service user 30) who desires a membership registration, the necessary data can be written on the IC card.

15 Further, at step 282, if it is judged that the registered temporary member ^{to have} is a "high grade membership", at step 286, it is at first judged whether the registered temporary member can be registered as a "low grade membership", ^{whether} namely the predetermined conditions ^{of} (as) a "low grade membership" are satisfied. 20 If the registered temporary member satisfies the predetermined conditions for a "low grade membership", an examination is performed ^{to determine} whether the registered temporary member is ^{is entitled to} (proper as) a "high grade membership" in connection with ^{factors} such as age, annual income, continuous service years, ^{whether he or she owns a} (own) house or rents ^a house, and ^{the} existence ^{or} (and) absence of a guarantor. The

reason why ^a [the] judgement ^{is first made to determine} whether the registered temporary member satisfies the predetermined conditions for a "low grade membership" [is performed first] is that if the registered temporary member satisfies the predetermined conditions for a "low grade membership", there is a ^{good} possibility that the registered temporary member can be regularly registered as a "high grade membership". Based on the [properness] examination ^{of factors for} [as] a "high grade membership", it is judged at step 288 whether the registered temporary member is ^{entitled to receive} [proper as] a "high grade membership" (whether the member satisfies predetermined conditions [as] ^{for} a "high grade membership"). When it is judged at step 288 that the registered temporary member is ^{entitled to receive} [proper for] a "high grade membership", ^{and} it is confirmed at step 290 that the registered temporary member satisfies the predetermined conditions [as] ^{for} a "high grade membership", the registered temporary member is registered as a "high grade membership" (a regular membership) and notification of ^{the} membership number and issuance of ^{to the member} membership card are performed. [and such] ^{the} personal data as shown in Fig. 13 [are] ^{is} recorded and stored in a memory at the service provider management company 60. The issuance of the membership card is performed in the same manner as [in] the issuance of ^a [the] membership card for a "low grade membership". Since the grade of the membership card ^{for a} [of] "high grade membership" is

high, [therefore,] ^{the} the card can be prepared, for example, in ^(a) a form of gold card so as to permit judgement at a glance ^{that the card holder has} (as) a "high grade membership".

Further, at step 288, if it is judged that the registered temporary member is not ^{entitled to receive} (proper as) a "high grade membership", at step 292, ^{indicating} an explanation, that the registered temporary member does not ^{satisfy} [satisfies] the predetermined conditions ^(as) a "high grade membership" (improper high grade membership) is transmitted to the temporary member, and, at the same time, ^{an inquiry is sent} (it is inquired) to the temporary member ^{to determine} whether the member desires to be registered as a "low grade member[ship]". After waiting for a response from the temporary member with regard to the inquiry ^{as to} whether the member ^{agrees} [accepts] to be registered as a "low grade member[ship]", (and) at step 292, when an answer ^{is received} refusing the membership registration as a "low grade member[ship]", or when no response is received within a predetermined period from the temporary member, the registration processing is ended ^{and} (by not registering) the temporary member ^{is not registered} as a regular member[ship]. Further, at step 294, when a response [of] accepting [the] membership registration as a "low grade member[ship]" is received (an application reception), the processing moves to step 284.

25 (The) ^A member ^{that has been} (as) registered in the manner (as) explained above ^{of his or her membership} is required to purchase points depending on the grade for every predetermined period

(for example, for every month)⁽¹⁾; and, as a method of purchasing the points, ^a fee corresponding to the points depending on the grade ^{of the membership} is drawn from the bank account of the member ^(for) every predetermined period (for example, ^(for) every month).

(The) ^A member ^{who has been} (as) ^{registered} in the manner (as) explained above, namely the service user 30, can receive a service offer depending on the ^{membership} grade (points owned) of the ^{member} (respective members). Fig. 5 shows a processing flow ^{that occurs} when a service user 30 receives such service offers.

In Fig. 5, when the service user 30 desires a service (offer), the service provider management company 60 proposes at step 300 services which can be offered to the service user 30. The service contents reflect a variety of services provided by the support entities 10 and includes such ^{services} as (the service with regard to ^{the purchase of} car insurance (for example, bodily injury liability insurance and property damage liability insurance), (article) ^{of articles} purchase, (payment) (service through a credit card) in the (chained) ^{chain} convenience store 12, refuelling (payment) at the gas station 13 (service through a credit card), a car repair service at the time of ^a car accident or ^{breakdown} (failure) at the car repair shop 14, a travel arrangement service at the travel and tourist agency 16, a local map distribution service through a car navigation ^{system} by the map distribution trader 17, a

ticket information service with regard to concerts and plays and ^{the purchase of a} ticket ^{selling service by} ^{from} the ticket dealer 18, an event ^{planning} ^{planning} ^{drafting and executing service} ^{provided} by the event ^{planning} ^{planning} agent 19, and ^{an} information 5 providing service ^{which provides information} such as ^{the location of traffic jams} (jamming points) and ^{the} ^{day on a} time of nation wide ^{scale} and ⁱⁿ specific local areas, and a variety of information with regard to cars, ^{from} ^{by} the traffic information provider 20.

After the services which can be offered to the 10 service user 30 are proposed at step 300, the service provider management company 60 judges at step 302 whether ^a ^{involves the purchase} the service ^{offer} desired by the service user 30 ^{is to provide a service} of car insurance (for example, bodily injury liability insurance and 15 property damage liability insurance).

When it is judged at step 302 that the service ^{involves the purchase of} ^{offer} desired by the service user 30 ^{is a} car insurance (for example, bodily injury liability insurance and property damage liability insurance), ^a ^{the} 20 processing at step 304 is performed. At ^{sub-} step 306 in the step 304, it is judged whether the service user 30 already ^{has leased} ^{through the car} ^{receives} a car use service. Namely, it is judged whether the service user 30 desires ^{to purchase} ^{the} car insurance ^{service} (for example, bodily injury 25 liability insurance and property damage liability insurance) under a condition ^{in which} ^{when} the service user 30 ^{has} ^{under lease through the car} ^{receives} a car use service ^{or not}.

When it is judged at ^{sub-}step 306 that the service user 30 already ^{has} ~~(receives)~~ ^{under lease through the car} a car ^{sub-} use service, at step 308, the service provider management company 60 displays a specific car insurance type (for example, 5 bodily injury liability insurance and property damage liability insurance) based on the car now ^{under lease} ~~(using)~~ and the insurance cost thereof; and, in addition to the specific car insurance proposals, ^{the management company 60} further proposes an option (for example, an insurance with high security 10 because of ^{substantial night driving} ~~(midnight drive)~~ which will meet the ^{purpose of} use ~~(purpose)~~ (for example, leisure use, ^{night driving} ~~(midnight drive)~~ use and business use) and the ^{typical} use area (for example, long distance drive, seaside area drive).

Further, if it is judged at ^{sub-}step 306 that the 15 service user 30 does not ^{have} ~~(receives)~~ ^{under lease through the car} a car use service, at step 310 the service provider management company 60 displays a general car insurance type (for example, bodily injury liability insurance and property damage liability insurance) and the insurance cost thereof; 20 and, in addition to the general car insurance proposals, ^{the management company 60} further proposes an option (for example, an insurance with high security because of ^{substantial night driving} ~~(midnight drive)~~ which will meet the ^{of use} ~~(use)~~ purpose (for example, leisure use, ^{night driving} ~~(midnight drive)~~ use and business use) and the ^{typical} use area.

25 When the car insurance ^{plans} ~~are~~ proposed at ^{sub-steps} ~~(step)~~ 308 and 310, the service user 30 selects one of the insurance ^{plans} ~~(services)~~ which the service user 30 desires

to receive based on the proposed insurance^{coverage} [contents],
 and an application for [the] ^{an} insurance agreement is
^{submitted} [performed]. When such ^{an} application ^{for an} [of the] insurance
 agreement ^{is submitted by the member} [occurs], the service provider management
 5 company 60 ^{calculates the points required for the} [concludes a point system] insurance in
 response to the application [of] ^{for} the insurance [agreement]
 from the service user 30 at step 312, [contents] ^{the coverage} of the
 insurance ^{plan} is confirmed and a point receiving
 processing is performed according to the agreement
 10 [result].

Further, at step 302, when it is judged ^{that} the
 service [offer] desired by the service user 30 is not
 the ^{purchase} [selection] of [the] car insurance, services other
 than the ^{offer of} car insurance are proposed at step 322, and].
 15 The services, other than ^{those concerning} [the] car insurance, include, for
 example, article purchase [payment] (service through a
 credit card) in the [chained] convenience store ^{chain} 12,
 refuelling [payment] at the gas station 13 (service
 through a credit card), a car repair service at the
 20 [time of car accident or failure at the] car repair shop
 14, a travel arrangement service at the travel and
 tourist agency 16, a local map distribution service
 through a car navigation ^{system}, by the map distribution
 trader 17, a ticket information service with regard to
 25 concerts and plays and ticket ^{sales} [selling service] by the
 ticket dealer 18, an event ^{planning} [planing], drafting and
 executing service by the event ^{planning} [planing] agent 19, and ^{an}

information providing service, such as, ^{the location of traffic jams} jamming points, ^{the day on a basis in} and time of, nation wide and specific local areas, ^{provision of} and a variety of information with regard to cars, by the traffic information provider 20.

5 At step 322, if a service other than the car insurance service is proposed, the service provider management company 60 judges at step 324 whether the service offer desired by the service user 30 is a map purchase application from the map distribution trader

10 17. When it is judged at the step 324, ^{the} the service offer ^{requested} [applied] by the service user 30 is the ^{of a map} [map] purchase, from the map distribution trader 17, the service provider management company 60 transmits, at step 332, ^{selection} map data for receiving ^{an} order and the cost of

15 the respective maps to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 and displays the same on the display of the car mounted unit 40. After transmitting the ^{selection} map data [for receiving order] and the cost thereof to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 at

20 step 332, the service provider management company 60 receives, at step 334, ^{selected} [selection] data with regard to ^a map [purchase] area ^{map selection} [performed] by the service user 30 based on the displayed data on the display of the car mounted unit 40, and ^{the management company 60} confirms the ^{map} selection ^{indicated by} [content]

25 with regard to the map [purchase] area [of] the service user 30. After receiving the ^{selected} [selection] data with regard to the map [purchase] area from the service user

30 at step 334, the service provider management company 60 transfers the area map data, ^{requested} [purchased] by the service user 30 to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 at step 336, and the service user 30 receives the map data and ^{accompanying} landscape ^{information for} [of the] portions (to ^{of special interest} be attentioned), on the map (data) transferred from the service provider management company 60 [and holds the]. ^{is held} This data, until terminating the service offer request.

Further, if it is judged at step 324, ^{that} the service offer desired by the service user 30, ^{does} [is] not ^{involve a} [the] map purchase, the service provider management company 60 transfers, at step 342, other service menu data to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 and proposes other services. The other services proposed by the service provider management company 60 include, for example, article purchase [payment] (service through a credit card) in the [chained] convenience store, ^{chain} 12, refuelling [payment] at the gas station 13 (service through a credit card), a car repair service [at the time of car accident or failure] at the car repair shop 14, a travel arrangement service at the travel and tourist agency 16, a ticket information service with regard to concerts and plays and ticket ^{sales} [selling service] by the ticket dealer 18, an event ^{planning} [planing], drafting and executing service by the event ^{planning} agent 19, and ^{an} information providing service, such as ^{the location of traffic jams} [jamming points] and ^{the day on a} time of nation wide ^{basis}.

and ⁱⁿ specific local areas, and ^{provision of} a variety of information with regard to cars, by the traffic information provider 20.

When the other services are proposed at step 342,
 5 the service provider management company 60 waits for^{ly} selection of^a service [offer] desired by the service user 30 among the other services displayed on the display of the car mounted unit 40, and when a selection of^a service [offer] by the service user 30 is performed, the
 10 service selection data [are]^{is} transmitted from the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 to the service provider management company 60. When the service provider management company 60 receives, at step 344, the service selection data transmitted from the
 15 service user 30, the service provider management company 60 transmits the [reception of the]^{received} service [offer] request to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 to^{confirm the request} [notify the same] to the service user 30.

20 When the processing of the insurance^{coverage} [content] at step 304, the processing of [such as] map data reception by the service user 30 at step 336 and the processings of other service data reception by the service user 30 at step 344 are performed, it is judged at step 346
 25 whether the processing of the service desired [to be] [offered] by the service user 30 is completed at step 346. If it is judged at step 346 that the processing

of the service desired [to be offered] by the service user 30 is not completed at step 346, the process returns to step 300. ^{On the other hand} [Further], if it is judged at step 346 that the processing of the service desired [to be] 5 [offered] by the service user 30 is completed at step 346, [reporting] data ^{identifying} [of] a series of services offered to the service user 30 by the service provider management company 60, point number data used therefor and remaining point number data of the service user 30 are 10 transmitted at step 350 to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 to ^{provide such information} [notify the same] to the service user 30.

When the reporting of the series of [the] services offered is performed at step 350, the fact that the 15 service user 30 has received [the] ^a service [offer] is registered to the ID card at step 352, as well as [is] [registered] to the data file of the concerned service user 30 at the service provider management company 60. Thereby, the points owned by the service user 30 are 20 reduced by an amount corresponding to the service received.

In response to such service [offer] application by the service user 30, the service provider management company 60 performs processings as shown in Fig. 6. →

25 In Fig. 6, when a service user 30 [performs] ^{sends} inquiries (such as membership application and service application), the service provider management company

60 receives, at step 400, the inquiries from the service user 30⁽¹⁾ and performs such^{operations} as menu transmission to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 and reception processing of the membership application^(and)
 5 ^{received from} [notifies the same to] the service user 30 at step 402. After performing [such as the] menu transmission to the service user 30 and the reception processing of ^{a received} (the) membership application at step 402, the service provider management company 60 waits for [the]^a service
 10 [offer application]^{request}, from the service user 30⁽¹⁾ and]. When the service user 30 ^{sends} [performs] a service [offer]^{request} [application] by making use of the ID card, the service provider management company 60 receives the service [offer application]^{request} from the service user 30 at step
 15 404.

When receiving the service^{request} [offer application] from the service user 30 at step 404, the service provider management company 60 transmits data for certifying whether the service user 30, who applies^{for} the service,
 20 [offer] is the [very person of the]^{actual} registered member^{entitled}, to^{use} the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 at step 406⁽¹⁾; and, after waiting^{for and receiving} an answer from the service user 30, the service provider management company 60 judges whether the service user 30 who^{has requested} [applies] the service
 25 [offer]^{actually} is [the very person of] the registered member at step 408.

When it is judged at step 408 that the^{service} (serve) user

30 who ^{requests} [applies] the service [offer] is not ^{actually} the [very] [person of the] registered member, it is further judged at step 410 whether the service user 30 ^{has committed} [repeats] an error [of] ⁱⁿ using an ID card of a different person from the service user 30. If it is judged at step 410 that the service user 30 ^{has} [does] not ^{committed an} [repeat the] error [of] ⁱⁿ using the ID card of ^a [the] different person from the service user 30, the process returns to step 406, and, again, the service provider management company 60 transmits data for certifying whether the service user 30 who ^{requests} [applies the] service ^{actual} [offer] is the [very person of the] registered member ^{entitled to use the car unit 40}.

Further, if it is judged at step 410 that the service user 30 repeats the error ⁱⁿ [of] using the ID card of ^a [the] different person from the service user 30, an explanation ^{indicating} [such as] that the service user 30 ^{appears to be using} [uses] the ID card of ^a [the] different person from the service user 30 is transmitted at step 412 to end the process.

Further, when it is judged at step 408 that the service user 30 who ^{requests} [applies the] service ^{actual} [offer] is confirmed as the [very person of the] registered member, image data of providable services are transmitted to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30 at step 414, and an input from the service user 30 is ^{awaited} [waited]. Thereafter, the service user 30 ^{may request} [applies] a service [use] by making use of the input image on the display of the car mounted unit 40. When [the application of] a ^{request for}

service [use] is ^{inputted} [performed] by the service user 30, the image input data ^{is} [by the service user 30 are] transmitted from the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30, and, when the service provider management company 60 receives the data at step 416, the ^{acknowledgment} [fact] of data received is transmitted to the car mounted unit 40 of the service user 30. After receiving the service, ^{request} [use application] at step 416, it is judged at step 418 whether the service provider management company 60 has received all of the service ^{requests} [use application] from the service user 30.

If it is judged at step 418 that the service provider management company 60 has not received all of the service ^{requests} [use application] from the service user 30, the process returns to step 414, and the ^{same} processing is repeated until all of the service ^{requests} [use application] from the service user 30 ^{have} [has] been received. Further, when it is judged at step 418 that the service provider management company 60 has received all of the service ^{requests} [use application] from the service user 30, the service provider management company 60 retrieves, at step 420, all of the ^{services} [service] ^{requested by} [use application from] the service user 30, transmits the retrieved result to the service user 30 and communicates with the service user 30 ^{that} to confirm ^{have been received} the service contents desired by the service user 30. When the service content desired by the service user 30 is

confirmed at step 420, ^{information as to} the past service use and the taste of the service user 30 ^{is} (are) retrieved at step 422 and an option based on the past service use and the taste of the service user 30 is transmitted to the service user 30. After transmitting the option at step 424, it is judged ^{whether} (weather) the service user 30 desires the option transmitted at step 426. When it is judged at step 426 that the service user 30 does not desire the option ^{so} transmitted, the data of the service user 30 ^{is} (are) renewed by such resultant data at step 428. Subsequently, the renewed data ^{is} (are) written into the ID (or an IC card ^{having} prepared by burying) an IC chip) card of the concerned service user 30 at step 430 to end the processing flow.

Fig. 9 is a point table showing a relationship between ^{related items} (providing) a plurality of ^{provided} services and ^{the number} (purchase) of points.
 In Fig. 9, column 686 ^{indicates the} (represents use) date, ^{of use} column 688 ^{identifies the transaction} (represents) items, column 690 represents points given, column 692 represents points used and column 694 represents points ^{which remain} (remained). Further, row 670 represents titles []; row 672 indicates that the remaining points at January 10, Heisei 12 is (2, 2000) ²²⁰⁰; row 674 indicates that ¹⁰⁰⁰ points (1.000) were given through point purchase at January 10, Heisei 12 and the ^{balance of} (remaining) points changed to 3.2000 []; row 676 indicates that points 800 were used for ^a car ^{level} (use) fee ^{on} (at) January

15, Heisei 12 and ^{that} the ^{balance of} [remaining] points changed to ²⁴⁰⁰ [2.400], row 678 indicates that ¹⁰ points [10] were used for the purchase of two pieces of music ^{on} [at] January 16, Heisei 12 and ^{that} the ^{balance of} [remaining] points changed to ²³⁹⁰ [2.390], row 680 indicates that ¹⁰⁰ points [100] were used for ^{a map} [the] [map] purchasing service ^{on} [at] January 20, Heisei 12 and ^{that} the ^{balance of} [remaining] points changed to ²²⁹⁰ [2.290], and row 682 indicates that ¹⁰⁰⁰ points [1.000] were given through ^{that} [the] point purchase ^{on} [at] February 10, Heisei 12 and ^{that} the ^{balance of} [remaining] points changed to ³²⁹⁰ [3.290]. The point table is presented to the service user 30 periodically or ^{each time a} [for] [every] service ^{is used} [use]. Thereby, the service user 30 can ^{identify} [recognize] his or her point ^{balance of} [use] status and the ^{remaining} [remaining] points.

15 [Such] ^A service user 30 can enjoy a variety of advantages by ^{purchasing} [receiving] the car use service. Fig. 10 shows a processing flow with regard to the car use service.

In Fig. 10, when the service user 30 applies at step 702 ^{for} the service, the service application is received by the service provider management company 60, and in response thereto, the service provider management company 60 transmits, at step 750, ^{a menu of} all of the ^{available services} [providable service menu] as illustrated in Fig. 11, to the service user 30. The menu ^{image} [image] 800 (the image on the display) as illustrated in Fig. 11 includes ^{the} customer's name and address (802), total points within

the agreement period (804), points used (806), points^{which} remain (808), points^{the membership} to be added / month (822) substantially representing / grade, points of use-reserved / month (824), points use-unreserved / month (826), car use service (832), insurance service (834), information purchase services^{services}, such as music and map (836), and other article purchase services (838), each of which can be selected by clicking^{on} the concerned portion through ^{use of} a mouse^{followed} (and) by clicking the

10 confirmation button 844.

For example, when the button 832 for the car use service is ^{selected using} [clicked with] the mouse, the ^{items in the} menu display, including the car lease service (832), the insurance service (834), the information purchase service [such] 15 [as map and music] (836) and the other article purchase service (838) ^{are} [is] partly altered into ^{items} [that] including^{new} car [newly] lease application (862), car [use] model alteration (864), car ^{lease} [use] condition alteration (866) and other (868), as illustrated in Fig. 12. In this

20 instance, when the button 862 for the ^{new} car [newly] lease application is ^{selected} [clicked], a list of car manufacturers is displayed, ^{this is} although not illustrated^{and}, when the name of a car manufacturer which the service user 30 wants to select is clicked with the mouse, the desired car

25 manufacturer[^] is selected. When a desired car manufacturer[^] is selected, all models / types of ^{cars provided by} the selected car manufacturer[^] are displayed, and, further,

the design of ^{each of the} [every] car models / types can be recognized on the display through photos (photos taken by a digital camera) [thereof]. When a specific car model / type is selected from the car models / types displayed, a display image for selection of displacement volume, grade and body color is displayed so as to successively select a specific car. Thereafter, another display image appears for selecting car, ^{accessoires} [accessory] to finally specify a car to be leased. In the display image for selection, when the service user 30 wants to change the selection content (for example, to change ^{a selected} [the] red body color to a white body color), a return button 842 is used, and when it is desired to cancel the data now inputted, the cancel button 846 is used.

Fig. 14 shows a processing flow with regard to [point] agreement continuation, ^{or renewal} for a [person of] registered member (service user 30).

In Fig. 14, when the service provider management company 60 requests the service user 30 ^{to specify} [a proceeding] [of point] agreement renewal / alteration (904), service provider management company 60 performs, at step 906, a menu transmission via the PC 31, the car mounted unit 32, the portable terminal 33 or the car mounted device 40 possessed by the service user 30. The [proceeding] request [of the point] ^{or} agreement renewal / alteration, ^{also} can be ^{initiated by} [performed from] the service user 30 ^{and sent} to the

service provider management company 60 via the PC 31, the car mounted unit 32, the portable terminal 33 or the car mounted device 40 possessed by the service user 30 (902).

5 When the menu transmission from the service provider management company 60 is received, the [service user 30 causes to display] the menu ^{is displayed} (image) ^{of the service user 30} on the display of the car mounted device 40, at step 908. When the image display is performed, the service user 30 performs the ^{required} processing of step 910. At ^{sub-}step 912 in step 910, a menu selection between [the point] agreement renewal or [point] agreement termination is performed. During the ^{sub-}step 912, a modified menu [image] as shown in Fig. 15 is displayed. The menu [image] (the 15 image on the display) as illustrated in Fig. 15 includes the name and address of the customer (802) to which no change is ^{made} [added], changed total points within ^{the} agreement period (952), points used (956), points ^{which remain} [remains] at the time of termination (956), points be 20 added / month (960) substantially representing ^{the membership} grade, points shifted to ^a subsequent agreement (962) based on points unused, ^a condition alteration "same amount of payment" (964), ^a condition alteration "same amount of points" (968), ^a condition alteration "payment amount 25 alteration" ^{and} [] "point amount alteration" (972), and agreement cancellation (974).

When the menu of the [point] agreement termination ^{processing}

^{sub-}
 (974) is selected at step 912, the [point] agreement is terminated at step 914. The [point] agreement termination is communicated to the service provider management company 60.

- 5 Further, when ^{from the menu} [the menu of point] agreement renewal is selected, ^{is to be made} at step 912, a selection between "same amount of payment" (alteration button 964 has to be clicked), "same amount of points" (alteration button 968 has to be clicked) and "payment amount alteration"
 10 and "point amount alteration" (alteration button 972 has to be clicked).

- The selection results ^{sub-} at steps 912 and 916 are transmitted to the service provider management company 60, and, in response to the selection result, the
 15 service provider management company 60 transmits, at step ⁹¹¹ [918], a request ^{for} [of a] processing based on the selection result by the service user 30. Namely, when [the point] agreement termination ^{from the menu} [menu] (step 912) is selected, the service user 30 is required to perform
 20 [the proceeding] ^{a process} for terminating the [point] agreement at step 914, and when [the point] agreement condition alteration ^{from the menu} [menu] (step 916) is selected, the service user 30 is required to perform ^{a process} [the proceeding] for altering the [point] agreement conditions.

- 25 The request for proceedings based on the selection result by the service user 30 is transmitted, and, when the service user 30 selects [the]

[point] agreement termination^{from the} menu (step 912), the processing for terminating the point agreement is performed at step 914. Further, when the service user 30 selects [the point] agreement condition alteration^{from the} menu (step 916), the processing for altering the [point] agreement conditions[^] is started, and conditions therefor are presented from the service provider management company 60. At the time of the condition presentation, if the same condition as the previous agreement is selected, the processing simply performs [a point]^{an} agreement renewal. Further, when the conditions of the [point] agreement are presented at step 920, the service user 30 selects at step 922 conditions among the presented conditions [of the point] applicable to the agreement¹⁵ [agreements]. When the selection of the [point] agreement conditions is performed, the^{altered} [alteration] contents are transmitted to the service provider management company 60, and, when the [point] agreement condition contents are received, the service provider management company 60 registers^{the selected conditions} at step 926 the selected conditions⁹²⁴, and transmits [at step 926] a report^{indicating} [informing] that the registration of the [point] agreement condition alteration^{has been} [is] performed according to the selected conditions^{at step 926}. When the transmission is received, the service user 30 causes to display the registration result of the [point] agreement condition alteration transmitted from the service provider management

is displayed at step 928 50
company 60p

As has been explained hitherto, according to the service processing system and the processing method of (providing services) of the present invention, services
5 can be more easily provided or offered to service users.

FIG. 1

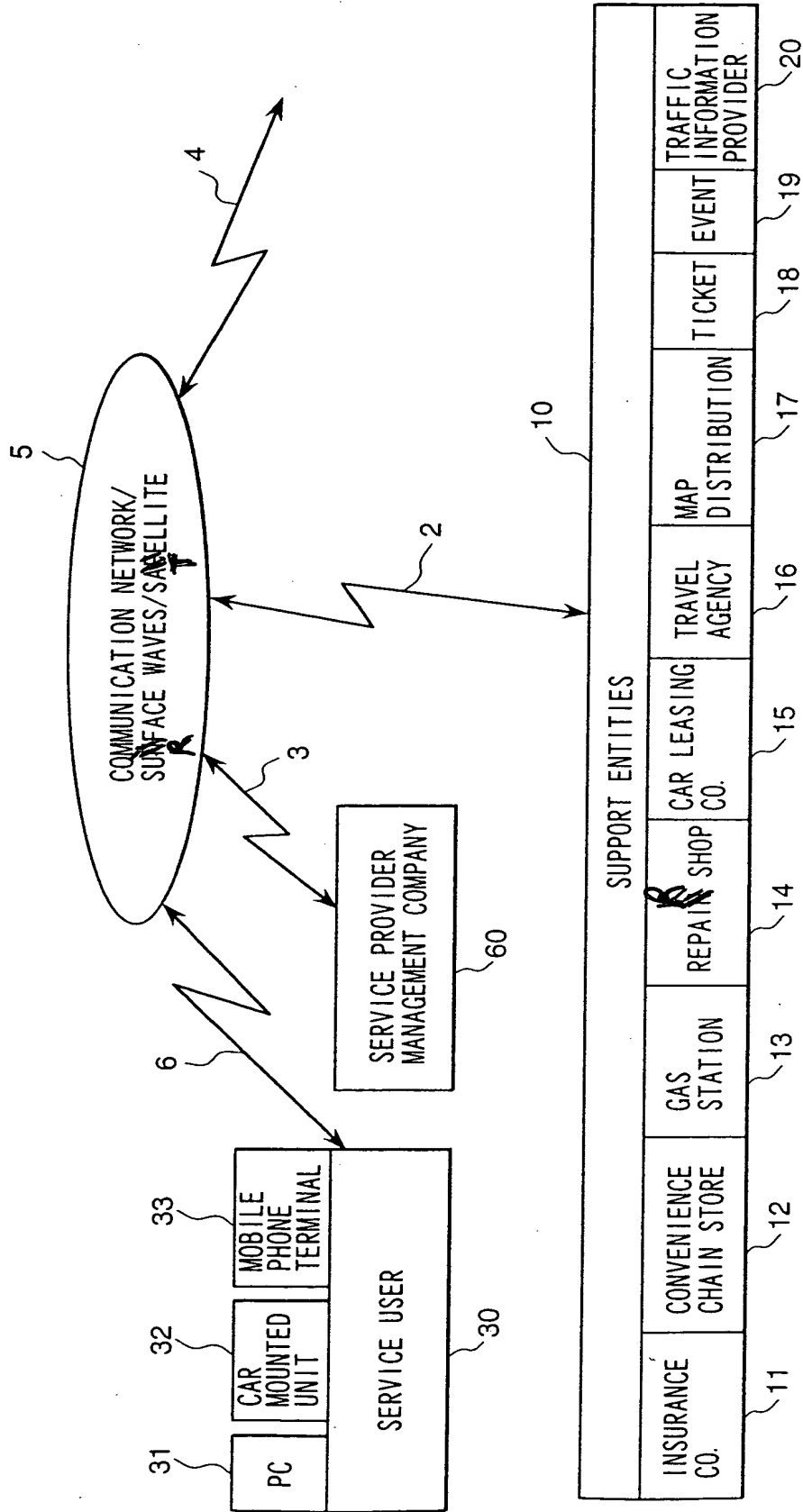


FIG. 3

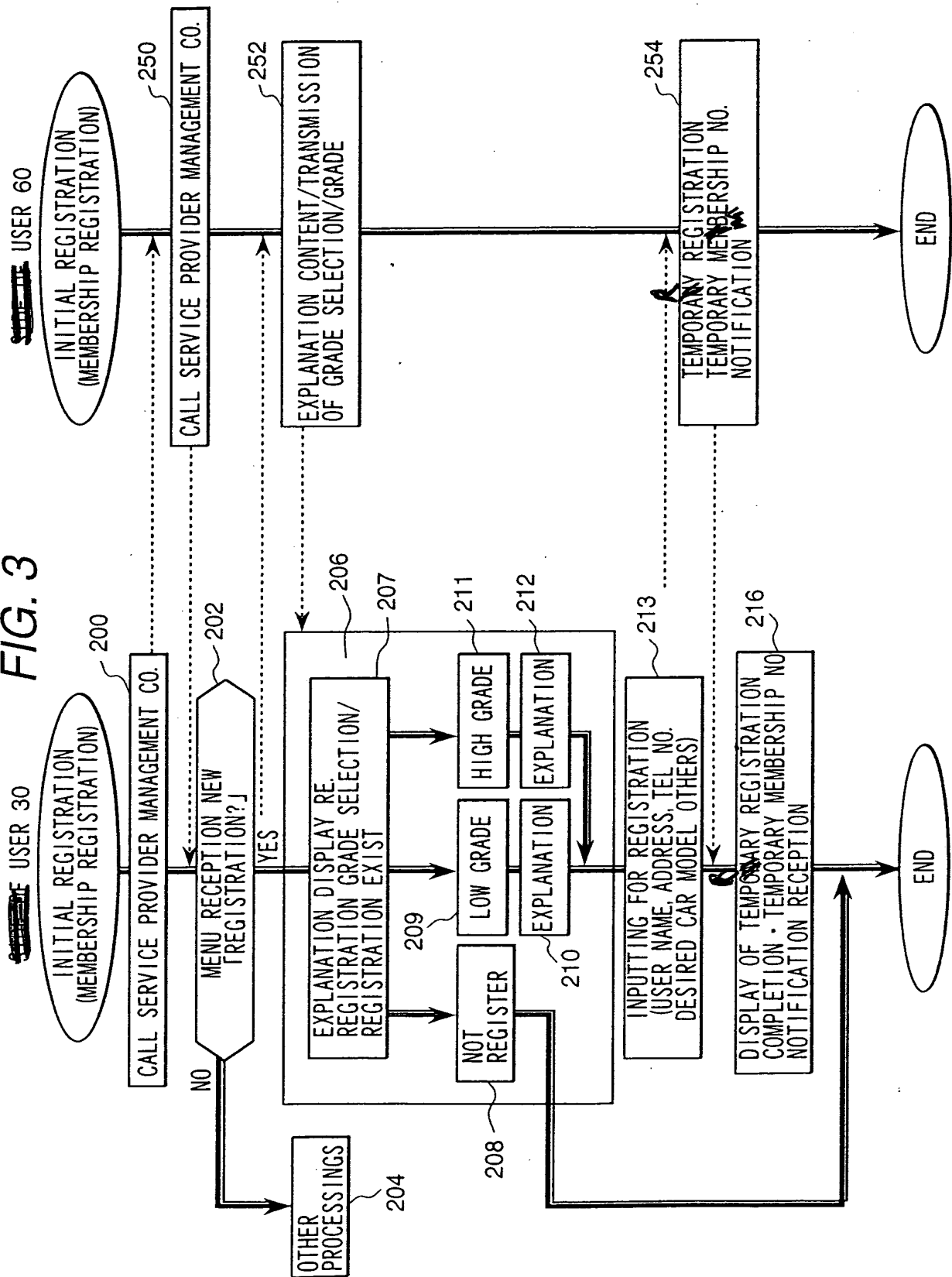


FIG. 5

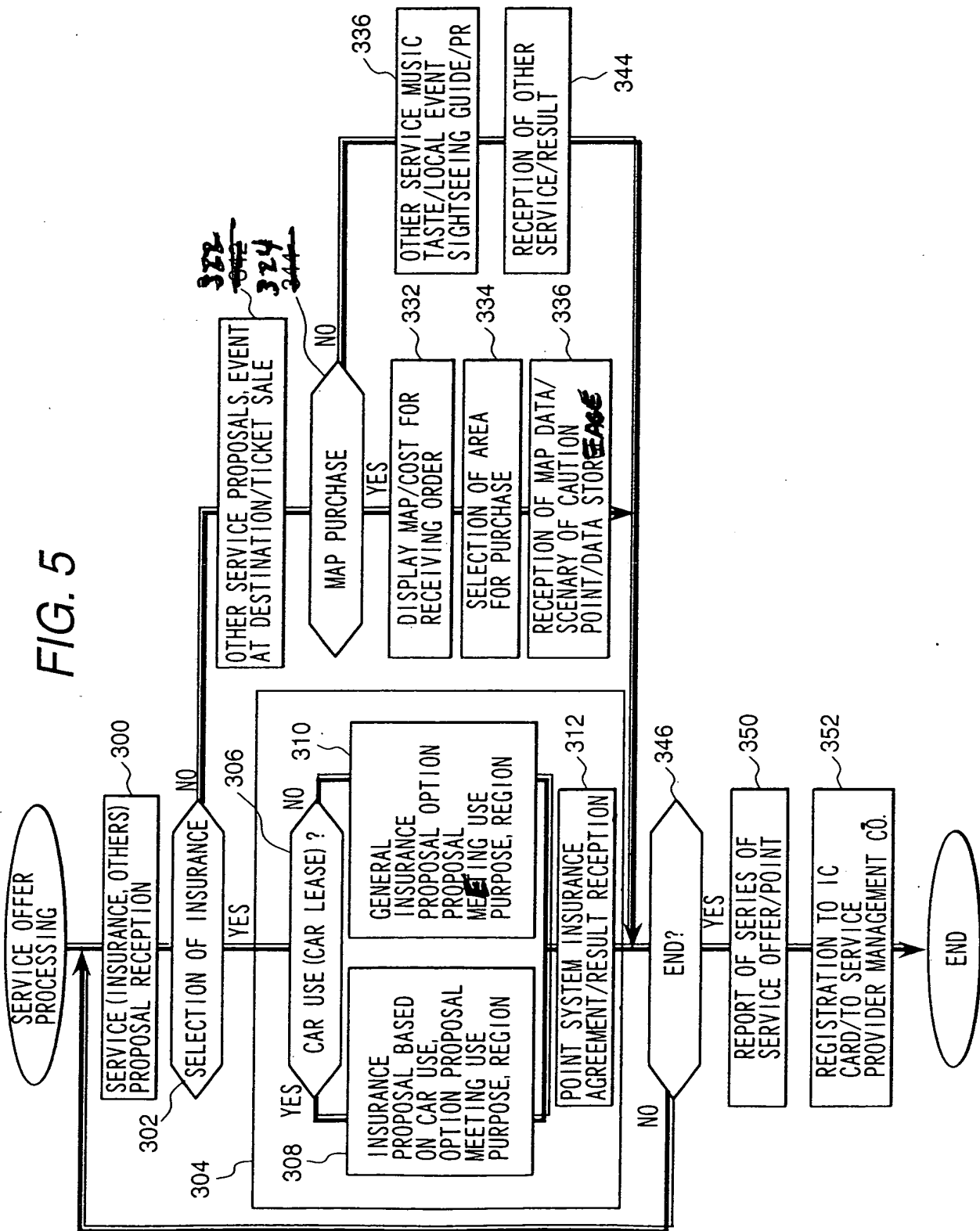


FIG. 6

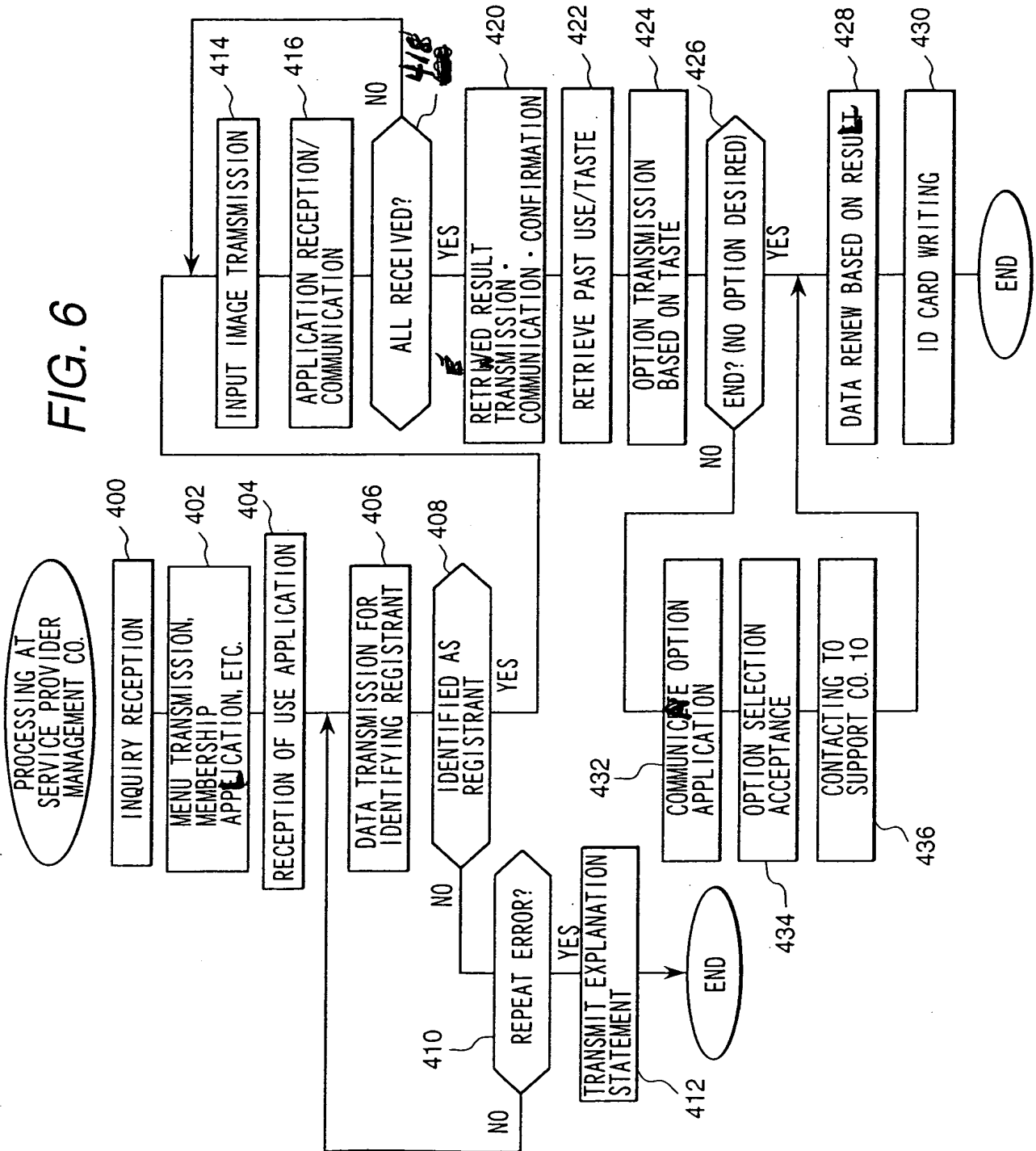


FIG. 10

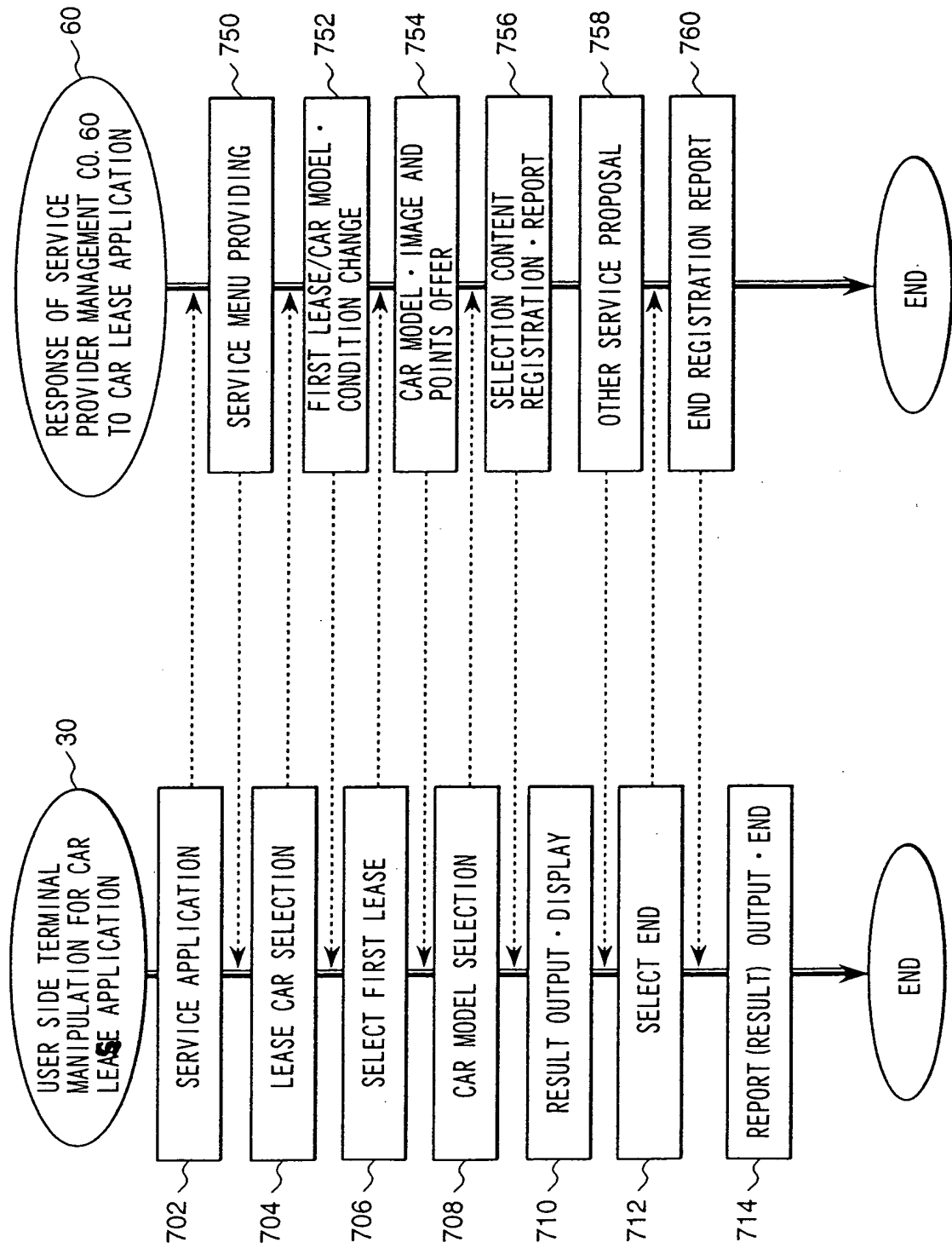


FIG. 13

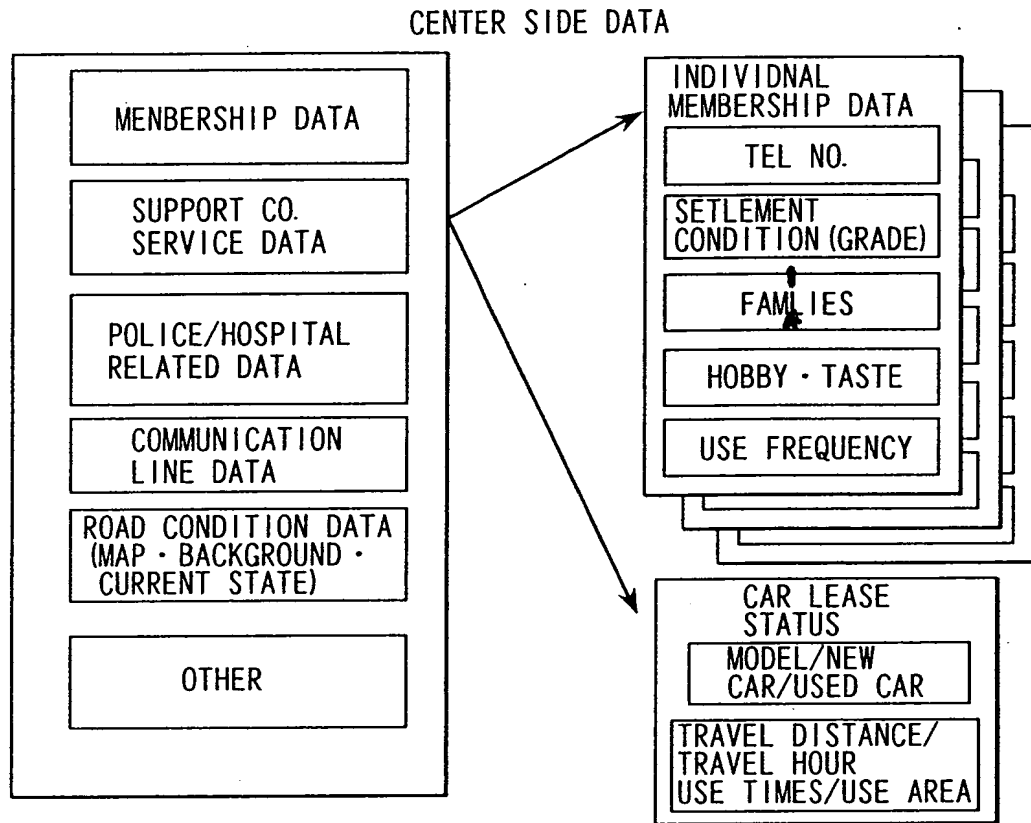


FIG. 14

